In the Claims

1. (currently amended) A method for reverse logistics, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

offering a right to market used goods, owned by an actual seller, for sale over an internet exchange portal, wherein the right to market the used goods is simultaneously provided to a plurality of different virtual sellers over the internet exchange portal;

selecting at least one of the virtual sellers;

selling [[a]] the right to market the used goods to the at least one of the [[a]] virtual sellers;

marketing the used goods over the portal under direction of the at least one virtual seller;

identifying an actual buyer; and

selling the used goods to the actual buyer.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein selling the right to market the used goods further comprises the actual seller and the at least one virtual seller entering into a contract. ~~the used goods are subject to rapid depreciation.~~

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the actual seller, the plurality of virtual sellers, and the actual buyer register with the internet exchange portal. ~~used goods are used computer goods.~~

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein:

the at least one virtual seller is a manufacturer of new goods; and

the actual seller is a strategic account customer of the manufacturer.

5. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the selling a right step further includes the step of:

charging the actual seller a lower price for acquiring the new goods in exchange for marketing the used goods.

6. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the marketing step includes the steps of:

   categorizing the used goods; and

   differentiating marketing by category.

7. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the categorizing step includes the step of:

   categorizing the used goods by their condition.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the manufacturer offers new goods at a discount to the actual seller for granting the manufacturer the right to market the used goods. 7, wherein the categories include acceptable, unacceptable, and mixed acceptability.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the manufacturer grants the actual seller credit for granting the manufacturer the right to market the used goods. 6, wherein the categorizing step includes the step of:

   categorizing the used goods by marketability.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the manufacturer offers the actual seller a rebate for granting the manufacturer the right to market the used goods. 9, wherein the marketability categories include marketable, unmarketable, and mixed marketability.

11. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the categorizing step includes the step of:

    categorizing the used goods by functionality levels.

12. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the functionality levels include systems, devices, components, parts, and materials.

13. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein:

the marketing step includes the step of virtually differentiating a portion of the used goods into both a first category and a second category;

the identifying step includes the steps of,

receiving a first offer for the first category from a first actual buyer; and

receiving a second offer for the second category from a second actual buyer,

wherein the second offer is of greater value than the first offer; and

the selling the used goods step includes the step of selling the portion of used goods to the second actual buyer.

14. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein:

the marketing step includes the steps of,

virtually differentiating the used goods into a matrix of categories; and

simultaneously marketing each of category in the matrix; and

the identifying step includes the step of receiving a set of offers for each of category in the matrix; and

the selling the used goods step includes the step of accepting those offers which maximize value returned to the actual seller for the used goods.

15. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the marketing step includes the step of:

virtually aggregating the used goods from a first actual seller with other used goods from a second actual sellers into a matrix of categories;

the identifying step includes the step of receiving a set of offers for each of category in the matrix; and

the selling the used goods step includes the step of accepting those offers which maximize value returned to the first actual seller.

16. (original) The method of claim 1, further including the steps of:

obtaining credit for a predetermined amount of funds from a creditor on behalf of the actual buyer; and

delaying payment of the funds from the creditor to the actual seller until after the actual buyer inspects and approves the used goods.

17. (currently amended) A computer-usable medium embodying computer program code for commanding a computer to perform reverse logistics, comprising the steps of:

offering used goods, owned by an actual seller, for sale over an internet exchange portal;

selling a right to market the used goods to a virtual seller, wherein the virtual seller is a manufacturer of new goods and the actual seller is a strategic account customer of the manufacturer;

marketing the used goods over the portal under direction of the virtual seller;

identifying an actual buyer; and

selling the used goods to the actual buyer.

18. (currently amended) The computer-usable medium of claim 17, further comprising accepting a bid, by the actual seller, from at least one of a plurality of virtual sellers to market the used goods over the internet exchange portal. wherein:

the virtual seller is a manufacturer of new goods; and

the actual seller is a strategic account customer of the manufacturer.

19. (currently amended) The computer-usable medium of claim 17 [[18]], wherein the selling a right step further includes the step of:

charging the actual seller a lower price for acquiring the new goods in exchange for marketing the used goods.

20. (original) The computer-usable medium of claim 17, wherein the marketing step includes the steps of:

categorizing the used goods; and

differentiating marketing by category.

21. (original) The computer-usable medium of claim 20, wherein:

the marketing step includes the step of virtually differentiating a portion of the used goods into both a first category and a second category;

the identifying step includes the steps of,

receiving a first offer for the first category from a first actual buyer; and

receiving a second offer for the second category from a second actual buyer,

wherein the second offer is of greater value than the first offer; and

the selling the used goods step includes the step of selling the portion of used goods to the second actual buyer.

22. (original) The computer-usable medium of claim 20, wherein:

the marketing step includes the steps of,

virtually differentiating the used goods into a matrix of categories; and

simultaneously marketing each of category in the matrix; and

the identifying step includes the step of receiving a set of offers for each of category in the matrix; and

the selling the used goods step includes the step of accepting those offers which maximize value returned to the actual seller for the used goods.

23. (original) The computer-usable medium of claim 20, wherein the marketing step includes the step of:

virtually aggregating the used goods from a first actual seller with other used goods from a second actual sellers into a matrix of categories;

the identifying step includes the step of receiving a set of offers for each of category in the matrix; and

the selling the used goods step includes the step of accepting those offers which maximize value returned to the first actual seller.

24. (original) The computer-usable medium of claim 17, further including the steps of:

obtaining credit for a predetermined amount of funds from a creditor on behalf of the actual buyer; and

delaying payment of the funds from the creditor to the actual seller until after the actual buyer inspects and approves the used goods.

25. (currently amended) A system for reverse logistics, comprising:

means for offering a right to market used goods, owned by an actual seller, for sale over an internet exchange portal, wherein the right to market the used goods is simultaneously provided to a plurality of different virtual sellers over the internet exchange portal;

means for selecting at least one of the virtual sellers;

means for selling the [[a]] right to market the used goods to the at least one of the [[a]] virtual sellers;

means for marketing the used goods over the portal under direction of the at least one virtual seller;

means for identifying an actual buyer; and

means for selling the used goods to the actual buyer.

26. (currently amended) The system of claim 25, wherein:

the at least one virtual seller is a manufacturer of new goods; and

the actual seller is a strategic account customer of the manufacturer.

27. (original) The system of claim 26, wherein the means for selling a right further includes:

means for charging the actual seller a lower price for acquiring the new goods in exchange for marketing the used goods.

28. (original) The system of claim 25, wherein the means for marketing includes:

means for categorizing the used goods; and

means for differentiating marketing by category.

29. (original) The system of claim 28, wherein:

the means for marketing includes means for virtually differentiating a portion of the used goods into both a first category and a second category;

the means for identifying includes,

means for receiving a first offer for the first category from a first actual buyer; and

means for receiving a second offer for the second category from a second actual buyer,

wherein the second offer is of greater value than the first offer; and

the means for selling the used goods includes means for selling the portion of used goods to the second actual buyer.

30. (original) The system of claim 28, wherein:

the means for marketing includes,

means for virtually differentiating the used goods into a matrix of categories; and

means for simultaneously marketing each of category in the matrix; and

the means for identifying includes means for receiving a set of offers for each of category in the matrix; and

the means for selling the used goods includes means for accepting those offers which maximize value returned to the actual seller for the used goods.

31. (original) The system of claim 28, wherein the means for marketing includes:

means for virtually aggregating the used goods from a first actual seller with other used goods from a second actual sellers into a matrix of categories;

the means for identifying includes means for receiving a set of offers for each of category in the matrix; and

the means for selling the used goods includes means for accepting those offers which maximize value returned to the first actual seller.

32. (original) The system of claim 25, further including:

means for obtaining credit for a predetermined amount of funds from a creditor on behalf of the actual buyer; and

means for delaying payment of the funds from the creditor to the actual seller until after the actual buyer inspects and approves the used goods.